



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

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Alexandria, VA  
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DATE: November 17, 2009

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SUBJECT: Expansion of HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) to  
Secondary Schools

TO: Regional Directors  
Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions

State Agencies  
Child Nutrition Programs  
All States

On October 21, 2009, the Department of Agriculture announced the expansion of the HealthierUS School Challenge to include secondary schools. The HUSSC is a voluntary national certification initiative that recognizes excellence in nutrition and physical activity in schools. Now all Team Nutrition schools can apply for one of the four award levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold or Gold of Distinction.

To qualify schools must meet tough nutrition standards, minimum average daily participation levels, and nutrition education and physical activity requirements. The specific criteria established for middle and high schools can be found at [http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/HealthierUS/secondary\\_chart.pdf](http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/HealthierUS/secondary_chart.pdf).

Secondary schools wishing to apply for an award can find more information and the online application tool located on the Food and Nutrition Service Team Nutrition website located at [www.teamnutrition.usda.gov](http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov).

**Original Signed**

CYNTHIA LONG  
Director  
Child Nutrition Division